

began to work with the city's Planning Department on a wide array of things, including reviewing development applications and supervising the city's Code Enforcement Program.

In 1995, Bob became the Director of Governmental Affairs for Recyc, Inc, where his experience eventually led him to become the Vice President of its parent Company, Gro West. His extensive work and specialization in Mining and Land Development, Heavy Equipment Rentals, and Wholesale Nurseries created an environment for tremendous growth within the region. In 2001, Bob expanded his experience in the field by accepting a position as Executive Officer for Forest Wood Fiber Products. His management style demonstrated through his roles in the business community led him to win a seat on the Lake Elsinore City Council in 2003. He would go on to win a second term in 2008, where he was selected by his colleagues to serve as the Lake Elsinore City Mayor, a position he has held four times.

It is hard to imagine that Bob would have any free time on his hands, yet has he always found time for his community. Bob was a Little League Baseball coach for virtually a decade during the 1990s, and prioritized public safety by organizing and instituting Neighborhood Watch groups throughout the area. He served as Vice Chairman of the County's Historical Commission, Chairman of the Lakeland Village Advisory Committee, Chairman of the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), and as Chairman of the RCTC's Budget Subcommittee. He is also a dedicated member of the Riverside County Solid Waste Advisory Task Force, the Lake Elsinore Redevelopment Committee, the State Route 91 Advisory Committee, the Wells Fargo Inland Empire Community Board, and the Riverside County Republican Central Committee.

For all that he has done, it is no surprise that Bob has been the recipient of numerous community awards including being named "Citizen of the Year" by the Lake Elsinore Chamber of Commerce in 2005, "Distinguished Citizen of the Year" by the Tahquitz District of the Boy Scouts of America in 2010, and being appointed to the State Board of Fire Services by then Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger.

In his spare time, Bob enjoys off-road racing, riding motorcycles, golf, tennis and walking his dog. He and his wife, Gina, live in Lake Elsinore where they enjoy cheering on their son, Richard, who is serving in the United States Army.

Considering all that Bob has done for Lake Elsinore, the Lake Elsinore Chamber of Commerce named him their 2013 John Packman Award recipient. Bob's tireless passion for service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community. He has been the heart and soul of many organizations and events and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives this prestigious award.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION  
FOR DEBBIE RICH RECIPIENT OF  
THE 2014 PHYLLIS EHLINGER  
WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

### HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014*

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Debbie Rich, chief executive officer of the Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona, who has been named winner of the 2014 Phyllis Ehlinger Women of Excellence Award by the Tucson Chapter of the American Advertising Federation.

This prestigious award recognizes a local woman who is a business owner or executive and who has demonstrated success within her industry, along with a dedication to philanthropy and mentoring.

Debbie is a former Girl Scout herself who today leads an organization that serves more than 15,000 girls and has more than 2,500 adult volunteers in Pima, Cochise, Greenlee, Yuma and Santa Cruz counties as well as southern parts of Graham, Maricopa and Pinal counties.

To meet the demand for services in Southern Arizona's underserved communities, Debbie created an innovative program using women students at the University of Arizona and Pima Community College as troop leaders. This has become a program beneficial both for the young scouts and also for the students who serve as their mentors and role models. To date, it is the only Girl Scout organization in the Nation to use this model.

Also under Debbie's leadership, Girl Scouts in Southern Arizona are addressing serious contemporary issues such as poverty, illiteracy, hunger, homelessness and violence.

Debbie's programs have become so successful and popular that the Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona now requires more space to fulfill its mission. There soon will be an enlarged campus with meeting rooms, science labs, a demonstration kitchen, a digital media lab and a gym.

Debbie has said that her goal is to motivate every girl in our community to be the best that she can be. Debbie herself has set a sterling example for the Girl Scouts who will come after her.

I am proud to recognize Debbie Rich on the occasion of her selection as recipient of the 2014 Phyllis Ehlinger Women of Excellence Award.

HONORING THE NORTH  
THOMPSONVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the North Thompsonville Fire Department. The NTFD is led by Chief Earl Provencher and Deputy Chiefs Douglas Maxellon and David Lapponese who are all prepared to lead a group of firefighters, or the entire department if necessary, into any situation. Chairman

Ralph Jensen heads the board of five fire commissioners. Since its first meeting in the Manning Barn on February 16, 1914, the fire department has grown steadily. Today, the station serves as a second home to the 46 men and women who proudly serve the 10,000 people of their district.

Through the years, the North Thompsonville Fire Department has expanded to better meet the needs of the community. By 1929, they had moved out of the Thompsonville Water Company Pumping Station and into their first fire station. In 1969, with more than 50 active members, the department hired the first part-time employees and named its first Fire Fighter of the Year, Ernest W. Deford. A generous donation from the John Maciolek Post of the American Legion in 1973 revolutionized the way the department responded to motor vehicle accidents. Believed to have the second set of Jaws of Life in the State of Connecticut, the department's use of this life-saving tool made critical rescues safer and more effective.

In 2009, the department proudly honored Deputy Chief Ken "Pops" Provencher for his 50 years of service. In 2012, they also gave this distinguished honor to Captain Patrick Griffin just before he passed away. The following year, department again had the privilege of honoring Captain Ralph Jensen, Sr. These men started as cadets and worked through the ranks from firefighter all the way up their respective ranks at retirement. All three continued their careers by becoming Fire Commissioners. The district, the members, and the citizens of the North Thompsonville Fire District thanked these men for their combined 150 years of service.

In 2012, the North Thompsonville Fire Department responded to 502 calls including structure, vehicle, brush and incidental fires, hazardous material incidents, mutual aid assignments, and medical emergencies. The department spent over 2,900 hours responding to emergencies and an additional 4,100 hours in training.

I ask that my colleagues join with me in congratulating the North Thompsonville Fire Department on the 100th anniversary and commend them for the work they do each day to keep their community safe.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, due to a flight cancellation and airline delays, I was unable to be present for votes on Monday, January 27. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 24, regarding H.R. 2166, and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 25, regarding H.R. 3008.

REMEMBERING COLONEL (U.S. ARMY RETIRED) WILLIAM EDWARD CALLENDER, SR.

### HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014*

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember the life of Colonel

(U.S. Army Retired) William Callender of Mobile, Alabama. Colonel (U.S. Army Retired) Callender, known affectionately to his family as 'The Colonel,' passed away on January 17, 2014, and was laid to rest in Pine Crest Cemetery in Mobile on January 22.

An avid Alabama Crimson Tide football fan, Colonel (U.S. Army Retired) Callender, was born in Mobile on September 17, 1937, graduating from Murphy High School in 1956 and the University of Alabama in 1960. He was married to his wife, Jacqueline, in 1958 and began his career in military service directly after his college graduation in 1960.

Colonel (U.S. Army Retired) Callender was sent to serve in Vietnam, earning a Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross, the Soldier's Medal and the Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star Medal. He was truly an American hero, selflessly putting himself in harm's way to protect the lives of his peers.

But Colonel (U.S. Army Retired) Callender's service continued even after his multiple tours in Vietnam, becoming known in South Alabama for his work on behalf of America's military veterans and earning the Gulf Coast Veteran of the Year Award in 2006. After retiring from the U.S. Army, Colonel (U.S. Army Retired) Callender began working at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, as well as serving on the Baldwin County School Board.

Upon his full retirement, he and his wife Jacqueline moved to Orange Beach, Alabama, serving on the Battleship Commission and enjoying his much-deserved retirement fishing. He will be greatly missed by his family—his wife, Jacqueline, his three daughters Ginger Hawkins, Cyndi Callender and Tammy Hadley, and his 12 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

South Alabama lost a great man on January 17 with the passing of Colonel (U.S. Army Retired) Callender. We thank him for his service and remember him for his courageous spirit fighting to defend our country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during rollcall vote No. 24 and 25 on January 27, 2014, due to a flight delay.

I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted:

On rollcall vote No. 24, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote No. 25, I would have voted "yes".

#### CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS: INCOME INEQUALITY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 27, 2014*

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues Congressmen Jeffries and Horsford for once again leading the Congressional Black Caucus Special Order Hour. Today's topic of income/economic inequality is

one of the most critical challenges currently facing our country.

For too many Americans, the barriers to economic opportunity and mobility have become insurmountable.

Just last week, a Pew Research Center survey found that at least 60 percent of all Republicans, Democrats and Independents say the gap between the rich and everyone else has grown in the past 10 years.

However, we do not need a survey to tell us what we already know to be true. According to the Census Bureau, 95 percent of all economic gains since the recovery began have gone to the top 1 percent.

We also know that, since 1979, our economy has more than doubled in size, but most of that growth has flowed to a fortunate few.

In the past, the average CEO made about 20 to 30 times the income of the average worker, today's CEO makes 273 times more. Meanwhile, a family in the top 1 percent has a net worth 288 times higher than the typical American family, the largest income gap ever for our country.

This is simply egregious.

We cannot continue to believe that a growing economy guarantees higher wages and income for all. Because it does not.

We cannot ignore that in 2014, women continue to lag behind men in wages, with women making 77 cents for every dollar a man takes home.

According to The Shriver Report: A Woman's Nation Pushes Back from the Brink, women make up nearly two-thirds of minimum-wage workers. Given this statistic, it's no wonder that a third of all American women are living on the brink of poverty.

Americans are working harder than ever, for the smallest of gains. This is simply not acceptable.

Congress must renew its focus on investing in the American people through quality programs that promote access to the middle class, equality and accountability.

In order to help the working poor and middle class, we must raise the minimum wage; invest in education; improve our infrastructure; reign in Wall Street and return our focus to Main Street.

Only then will we be on the path toward prosperity and equal economic opportunity for all.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday and missed roll Nos. 24 and 25. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on roll Nos. 24 and 25.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

#### HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014*

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and cele-

brating the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation for its efforts on AgVenture, an innovative program that teaches students about agriculture and our nation's food supply.

California's San Joaquin Valley is one of the most bountiful agricultural regions in the world. From cucumbers to walnuts, from tomatoes to cherries, the Valley is vital to the United States' food security. In 2012, San Joaquin County alone produced \$2.8 billion in agricultural revenue, an extraordinary 28 percent increase from the previous year, and is responsible for countless jobs in the region.

To help raise awareness about local agriculture, the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation started AgVenture, which educates 11,000 elementary school students per year in San Joaquin County farming techniques, the history of certain crops, and the food they eat.

AgVenture helps rebuild a sense of community between those who live in urban and suburban cities and people in rural areas. AgVenture and other efforts by the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation promote healthy diets, ensure affordable food, and honor the rich agricultural history of the United States. I am proud to represent San Joaquin County farmers in Congress.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation, its AgVenture program, and its dedication to improving the education and nutrition of California's youth.

#### GOOD SAMARITAN SEARCH AND RECOVERY ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 27, 2014*

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank Chairman FRANK D. LUCAS of the Committee on Agriculture for his assistance in scheduling H.R. 2166 for consideration by the House of Representatives on Monday, January 27, 2014. I submit an exchange of letters between the Committees regarding this bill.

The continued cooperation shown by Chairman LUCAS and his able staff on national forest issues is much appreciated, and I look forward to continuing to work with the Chairman for the remainder of the Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,

*Washington, DC, September 10, 2013.*

Hon. DOC HASTINGS,  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,  
Longworth HOB, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HASTINGS: Thank you for the opportunity to review the relevant provisions of the text of H.R. 2166, the Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act of 2013. As you are aware, the bill was primarily referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, while the Agriculture Committee received an additional referral.

I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner and, accordingly, I agree to discharge H.R. 2166 from further consideration by the Committee on Agriculture. I do so with the understanding that by discharging the bill, the Committee on Agriculture does not waive any future jurisdictional claim on this or similar matters. Further, the Committee on Agriculture reserves